Rec^d Aug. 15
Ans Dec 12th

Princeton, August 2nd, 1844

My dear Sir,

I received your letter of July 6th, & thank you for the information it contains. When you have compared Humboldt's Cuscuta umbellata with mine I should be glad to have the result. It will be desirable to insert it in the Flora. It is strange that Choisy did not see the original specimens of that plant, as he must have examined the Paris collections. I have found no Cuscutae in the State of New York except C. Gronovii & C. Saururi – and the introduced C. Epilinum, & yet I have looked pretty sharply for them. I was in error in supposing that Dr. Gray had selecting specimens for you from my herbarium. He talked of doing so – but was prevented from some cause. Re looking over my plants, however, I don't find much that will interest you in Cuscutae

As to drawings of Asclepiadeous plants, I should like them partially colored. Say a flower & leaf; that they may be finished if desired. Any species not to be obtained about here will be acceptable. We have the following A. Cornuti (Syriaca) phytolacced., variegata, purpurasc., incarnata, obtusif., quadrifol., verticillata, tuberosa, & pauperscula. Acerates viridiflora. If there is a person who could execute the drawing under your eye, I would gladly pay what you think right for them. They should be of quarto size. If not too late in the season, I would be much obliged if you would

Yours very

get some drawings of these plants from Mr. Lindheimer.

As you remark, it was quite too late when Dr. Wislizenus arrived, for him to proceed towards the Rocky Mountains. He can, however, employ his time profitably the remainder of the present season, & be ready to start for the far far west early next Spring.

No news from Fremont since that notice from California! Where can he be? The flood must have detained him - but could not have been the whole cause of his remaining so long away. You speak of Geyer having collected for him - but I did not know of this arrangement. I thought he declined employing him. Where is Geyer now? I prepared a letter for him long ago - but did not send it, because I knew not his direction

Dr. Gray & I looked over the collection of Lindheimer plants that you sent him. I cannot afford to subscribe for whole sets, but there are a few that I should be very glad to get, & I would give double & treble price for them if they could be spared. I would also make up for Mr. L. a collection of the rare plants from different parts of the United States

I have been studying N. American Rumices lately. They are rather troublesome. One or two of the western species must be new

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particularly one that is allied to R. Britannica & R. salicifolius. The position of the embryo affords pretty good characters in some of the species. Will you give me your views of the differences kinds around you. I should like to know also what species of Amaranthus occur in Missouri. Likewise whether you have any observations on Chenopodiaceae? I had occasion lately to study most of our Genera & species of the last family, & found them to be very interesting. The monograph of Moquin Tandon is very good. Have you seen it?

I wish you would give some attention to the Cyperaceae of Missouri. You are aware, perhaps, that this is a favorite Order of mine. Have you seen my monogr. in the N. Am. Species, published in the Annals of the N York Lyceum. I will send you a separate copy if you wish. I have many additions since the memoir was printed. I shall some day give a new edition of it.

If there is any particular family that you are engaged in studying it will afford me pleasure to contribute whatever my herbarium may contain. Fragments of the specimens, when there are no duplicates, might assist you in identifying species. I may possibly have some books that you would like to have me consult for you. These command my services, & they shall be cheerfully rendered.

I am Dear Sir
Your truly
John Torrey

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I have been greatly troubled with our species of Physalis – notwithstanding the light thrown on them by Nees, in Linnæa. 1831. We have but one in the State of N. York. & it is P. heterophylla of Nees – But surely it is an ~~old~~ old species. I don't see how it differs materially from P. viscosa. There is also an annual species, (P. heteroph. in H) – which must be P. pubescens. As to the western & Southern kinds I have made no special study of them – but I have fine materials in my herbarium whereon they are taken up.

1844 Sept 2d
" Nov 15
" Dec 12

Prof. Torrey
Princeton

Geo. Engelmann, M.D.
St. Louis,
Missouri.

AUG 5

Recd July 17th 1845
Ans July 22

July 4. Cambridge —

Dear Doctor.

I have waited before replying to your letter of the 9th June, until the new Post-Office law should come into operation, and also until the sets of Lindheimer's plants, daily expected, should arrive. Some time ago I got a bill of lading of a box by a New Orleans ship, which I supposed was yours. But two days ago it came, and proved to be something else. How was your box sent? By what ship from New Orleans? I want to see the sets before I send my MSS. to the Printer. I want also the continuation of the labels — which you sent me only for the 1st collection. I like the labels very well, except I think them almost too large. The enclosed sheet I have gradually filled with notes, of more or less interest. I will print in the Boston Journal of Natural History; and get a large number of extra copies at small expense. I shall go to press now very soon, as I am just done with College work for the season.

I reduce your Opuntia fragilis to a var. of O. Ficus-indica, and then add all the others in a note on your own authority. I have a small plant of ~~O. ficus~~ Cactus Mesembrianthemoides which when I asked for the Gardener was unable to find. If we find it, and it grows rightly named, I will send ~~it~~ to you a cutting. Yours sent to me are mostly alive. I could send you several; but I fear not such as would interest you — nearly common garden ones, & perhaps not well named.

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I trust Lindheimer will do wonderfully well this year. You ask for Drummonds specimens compare with Lindheimers. The specimens are better made and dried than Drummonds, but, judging from my own set, are not so copiously distributed. But perhaps yours are full enough for the price. There will be no difficulty in the sale when once in the market, and in considerable quantity.

I wish to receive the sets soon — also soon to send you proofs — I have the rest of the work for Dr. Torrey, who is now with me. —

Yours truly
A Gray.

Cambridge, July 5th 1845

My dear Sir —

I am here on a visit, at my friend Dr. Gray's & as he was about sending off a letter, I asked him to reserve a corner for me. As you may well suppose, it is a great treat to work side by side with my old fellow laborer once more. He is very comfortably situated, living in a large house attached to the garden. — I was surprised & disappointed at the return of Mr. Halsted. He came to my house at Princeton last week, & spent several days there. I had anticipated some valuable acquisitions to our Botany from his exploration in the far west. Fremont, however, will collect largely. But what a pity he did not take with him a thorough botanical collector! I believe he has in his company a gardener who can make tolerable drawings — but he ought to have taken with him a person whom I recommended — & who expected to go, within a short time before the expedition started. The report of his last expedition is not yet published — but it was promised by the 1st of June. I have a small botanical appendix — but concluded to reserve my account of the whole collection till the 2nd expedition returned.

I see that you continue to work at Euphorbiaceae, & with much success. I have long been interested in this family, & have opinions utter a them. Klotzsch has anticipated some of my determinations

but there is much to do still. I wish you could get a copy of Nuttall's Arkans. fl. from the Am. Philos. Trans. Nutt. left some extra copies in Philadelphia & I will try & get one of them for you from Dr. Pickering. I thank you for the plants sent by Mr. Walter. The one that interested me most was Adoxa Canad. with white flowers. I have long sought for them without success, but hope to find them this season. Is it possible that this plant can be indigenous to Germany? In glancing over Koch, Pl. Germ. two or three years ago (I do not possess the work), if I remember correctly, he gives an account of it, as one of the native plants of that country – but no other author notices it as an extra American genus.

Engelmann
Geo.
St. Louis
Missouri

Mr. Asa Gray
Cambridge
Mass.
Franked

I have some plants for you, which I hope to send by an early opportunity, but I have been so constantly occupied with teaching, & in finishing my N. York Flora, that it has been out of my power to make up a large collection for you. It always gives me much pleasure to hear from you, especially to receive your critical notices of plants belonging to some of my favorite families. Believe me ever, cordially yours, John Torrey

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Rec'd March 31st
Ans Apr 19th

Princeton, N.J. March 9th 1846

My dear Sir

I am ashamed that I have allowed two letters of yours so long unanswered. I had supposed that the receipt of the first was acknowledged – but it is not so marked. As to the second I have something to say in extenuation of my delay. It came to hand after I had commenced my lectures in the New York Medical College – & during the winter my time is so entirely taken up with Chemistry, that Botany & correspondence in general are suspended. Now, however, I am through with my work in the City & am again working at Botany.

First let me thank you for those excellent plants of Lindheimer, which I greatly prize – then the drawing of the new Asclepias – &c – were not unacceptable. I hope shortly to make some return for your liberality, – but I must first get my collections in some order. It was only a few days ago that I put in the printer's hands the last pages of my New York Flora – which had been long delayed – Now that this work is completed I may hope to be more useful to my friends. You know, perhaps, that the Botany of New York is part of a great work on the Natural History of the State, to be comprized in 15 vols. 4to. Nine make the last two, that are printed. There are 5 more to come. By a foolish law of the Legislature, passed last session (1844-5)

I enclose a Specimen of a Circular
Illustration – giving (apparently)
What it is.

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the remainder of the edition (which was of 3000 copies) after presenting many copies to individuals of Societies abroad, as well as to Colleges &c. in this country - were apportioned to the several counties of New York, according to their population - those persons who visited the work were to record their names in the County Clerk's office - & were to be supplied in the order of their entering - The price to be paid was One dollar a volume which, on the average, was one fifth of the cost: The lithographer told me that he paid 7½ dolls for coloring the plates in this volume of birds - When the boxes of books were sent to the different counties for distribution, there was a real scramble - & many (through family & political influence) obtained copies who had no right to them & did not value them except as picture books! while others, who greatly desired the work were unable to procure it. I could not get one for myself - & shall probably have to purchase one at a premium! So that my labor will be of comparatively little use, after all. Our young friends LeConte & Halsted did not accomplish much. The former brought home quite a number of insects to be sure but he could probably have got as many nearer home. Halsted was very unfortunate in not being able to go on. He is now trying to get an appointment in an expedn, which is said to be preparing for surveying the Coast of rivers of Oregon.

I am glad you are studying the Cyperaceae - & that Oregon will collect a good deal of new matter in relation to the western species - So that I can use it when we fit up for the Flora of N. America. We must depend very much on minute characters, both for the species

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as well as the genera of these plants. You have also become much interested in another favorite order of mine – viz. the Euphorbiaceae. How you M. de Jussieu's memoir on this subject? Klotzsch has got hold of several of my best new genera – & I am glad to find my views established by the observations of so good a botanist. I shall probably wish to consult you, this season, on quite a number of southern & western Euphorbiaceae. As to Euphorbia maculata. It seems that the original plant was my E. depressa. So Sir J. E. Smith informed me many years ago – the decision made after a comparison with the Linnaean Herb.

The E. maculata of the Manlesia (if I remember correctly) is E. hypericifolia.

These plants sent by Fremont are very good – & several of them quite new. What a pity he did not take out the botanist that I recommended – of whom (until near the time that the Expedn. started) I expected would go! Dr. Macdonald was not the man for that department.

I trust that the mode of packing in water-tight tin boxes (which I earnestly recommended) will secure the safe preservation of all the specimens that may be collected. As the Capt.n was to spend some time in exploring the great Salt Lake, I suppose we may expect some new & interesting Chenopodiaceae from thence.

Have you any late news from Lindheimer? Has Hooker commenced the publication of Geyer's plants? I must get out with the best of Fremont's novelties or I shall be anticipated. You know that I am to work up all the stuff for the 3rd report. A considerable number of ~~the~~ plants are drawn already & some of them engraved!

Do you know of any botanists who are going to the Rocky Mountains this season – one might easily accompany the party of emigrants – & return by the first of October?

When I do anything in Botany worth communicating to you I shall write again & I trust it will not be long. In the mean time I shall be very happy to hear from you. Our friend Dr. Gray is well. He has been lecturing in Boston with great acceptance the past winter.

Believe me sincerely yours –

John Torrey

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George Englemann, M.D.

St. Louis,

Missouri.

Prof. J. Torrey

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Rec^d July 30th
Ans. Aug 7th

3

Princeton. May 27th 1847.

My dear Sir -

Surely I am an unworthy correspondent if I have not replied to your last letter. It seems to me that I must have written, but made no memorandum of the fact. At any rate I have not thanked you for some of the interesting plants that you have sent me, & the drawing of Acerates. The fact is I had undertaken too much business, & my correspondence got sadly in arrears for want of time to post up. Now, however, I hope to reply more promptly to the communications of my friends.

Here again is another delay - notwithstanding my resolution to do better! I now have my way pretty clear, & hope to work at Pd Stamens without much interruption

LeConte brought me that drawing of Acerates - for which I thank you much. - also the fruit of Euclemia.

Have you heard lately from Mr. Lindheimer? He must have found many new & curious plants this season.

You state in your letter that your former portion

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Dr. Wislizenus had gone on a tour of Exploration to N. Western Mexico of California, & that he expected to collect plants. Have you received any collections from him? Mr. Fendler, also, was to collect - on a journey to Santa Fé. He might to have found many plants. Mr. Halsted practiced in medicine last autumn, & in the spring accompanied the N York regiment of Volunteers as Surgeon. He is now in Mexico & attends to Botany when he can.

I thank you for the notes on Cuscutae. The C. "chilensis" from Hindsian, was collected by Dr. Grant, an American Nicaragua, who is now dead.

You may remember that Lt. Abert accompanied Frémont as far as Bent's fort - where he had a separate command & surveyed the Purgatory Creek, the Canadian, & the Arkansas. His report was published last autumn. I have all his plants. Also another valuable collection just handed over to me by Lt. (rather now Major) Emory who obtained them in descending the Delaware from Sta. Fe, - then striking west to the valley of the Gila, which he followed to its junction with the Colorado - then down to St Diego. Many of the plants are quite new to us. I have prepared some hasty notes, just to give a little interest to Maj. Emory's narrative - & shall afterwards study the plants more carefully. No more plants have been received from Frémont, but his wife, whom I saw last April in Washington, says he must have a great many - but he won't trust them to any one, but will bring them home himself. This town is doing some-thing for Botany! - but not much else. From Monterey (Mex.) there are two collections for me on the way.

I trust that you improve all the leisure you can command for the prosecution of your favorite science, & I take a lively interest in your labors. I greatly wish that you lived nearer Gray & myself. So that we could meet once in a while. Will you not take up some class or genus of N. Am. plants & make a special study of them. You have only to ask for any thing, described or not in my herbarium, & I will loan them to you. Take some genus or order a little in advance of the Flora (as far as written) - say in Monochlam. or Apet. & I will pack up for you the whole of my materials on the subject. This will aid the cause of Botany, & will make light work in preparing for the Flora. You can publish in

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any transactions that you may select. I have extra copies for little or nothing. I am sure that Dr. Gray would be glad to contribute whatever materials may exist in his herb.m or not in mine that are suited to your purpose.

You may perhaps be glad to learn, that I have been engaged to describe the Oregon & California plants of the U.S. Exploring Expedn. The gentlemen at Washington found out at last, what our botanists knew from the first, that Mr. Rich, who had the charge of the plants, never could describe them. He did nothing but smoke segars & tell stories during the Expedn.: & since its return (about five years) he has been trying to prepare a vol. on the tropical plants. About 3 months ago, he gave up the job, & has gone off to Mexico or California as a paymaster! I would not undertake any but the Oregon & California plants. All of Rich's mst. is worthless - & I fear also the 70 costly folio plates engraved for his work. No confidence can be put in the anatomical details - & most of the specimens were sacrificed in making them so that they cannot be verified. Believe me very truly yours

John Torrey

Recd Aug 30th
Ans. Octo 5th

Princeton Aug. 20th 1849

My dear Sir -

Your letter of the 7th inst. was received two days ago - & like all your other favors, was extremely acceptable. I have lately been spending a fortnight with Dr. Gray, where I saw a quantity of Sundheimers plants. He has been exploring a most interesting region. Those Dayflowers of Zuccarini are fine. I had already received two of them from Maj. (late Lieut.) Emory of the Army - who accompanied Doniphan last year. His collections between St. Fe & the mouth of the Colorado are very good - but owing to the hardships of the march, he could not collect by any means all of the curious plants that were seen. I shall be glad to see the remaining collections of Lindheimer - & if our medical college succeeds well next winter, I hope to subscribe for his plants. I have the Melastomaceae which Dr. Gray received from you.

Dr. Mortizen's seems to have done well. & I hope he will be rewarded for his courage & fidelity by an appointment in the Army, if he wishes it. I will (if you think best) write to Col. Abert in his behalf - this gentleman has great influence. I am acquainted also with Mr. Marcy, & believe that he would be somewhat influenced by a letter from me.

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You speak of collections from Monterey & Salsitto. I have just received some good plants from the former place - sent by Maj. Eaton, & Dr. Edwards of the Army.

As you are familiar with Western & S. Western Cacti, I must send you a few drawings of some plants of this family, observed by Lt. Abert in New Mexico. They are probably species well known to you - but I should like their names. as Maj. Emory would be glad to allude to them in his Report to Congress. Col. Abert will probably send them to you under Cover.

In a few days I will see whether there are any doubtful species of Euphorbia among the Expl. Exped.n plants, - & if I find any they shall be forwarded to you in a letter: Pray later have a new monograph of the genus when you have finished your examinations.

We shall be very glad to receive your descriptions of Alismaceae for the Flora. You sent me (some time ago) a little Alisma which seems very near my A. Geyeri (in Nicollet's Report) - but I have not compared them critically. I should like to receive duplicates of your three new species. What characters do you depend on for distinguishing Alisma from Echinodorus? A. radicans of Nuttall is widely spread. I have received it from Florida.

Among Emory's plants are a number of Nymphaeae - particularly some Indian that I don't know. Unfortunately some of them are not in flower. It is probable that your new species (near odorata) may be among them. Look in Bentham's Revision of Nymphaeae (in Hook. journ. bot. & London Journ. bot.) when you study these plants. He has several species allied to my P. odorata. viz. P. stomatocarpa &c.

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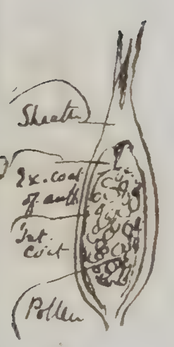
I have lately had occasion to revise Najas & Caulinia, & am now inclined to consider these genera as distinct. Nees jun. keeps them separate - but I regret not looking at his plates when I was at Dr. Gray's. Indeed, it was after I left him that I reexamined these curious aquatics. We have but one of the genera here - viz. Caulinia. This is monoecious (generally) - The anther is one-celled - &, exclusive of the sheath, I feel confident that there are two other tunics to this organ. The anther proper is loose in the bicuspid or tricuspid sheath. The exterior tunic is bifid & rather bilabiate at the summit: the inner tunic extremely thin & transparent, but pretty tough. When the anther is pressed, - or even a needle rolled over it from the base upward, the pollen does not escape through the bilab. opening - but breaks away at the side - & even through the sheath.



The female flower is, I think, correctly described by Endlicher. ~~The~~ It has a sheath, which is blended with the utricle. The two exterior cusps belong to the sheath, the two inner points (usually - but not always, shorter) are the proper stigmas.

In my herbarium there are specimens of a Najas from Louisiana (Dr. Hale). The male flowers are much as in ~~No~~ Caulinia, but ~~they are~~ the anthers are distinctly 4-celled. The ext. tunic is thin - ~~&~~ but I have not seen it split, as in the European species. As the pollen is matted when young, & thus looks like 4 masses, Kunth once took them for ovules or seeds - & hence his N. tetraspermus. I dont know what species the Louisiana plant is - but perhaps new; i.e. N. minor. The male flowers of most Najades & Caulineae seem to be little known - Neither Champion nor Kunth have described any minutely except those of Najas major. Will you look at these plants - as they doubtless grow in your vicinity. How do Caulinia fragilis, flexilis & Najas Canadensis differ? Indeed by the Dissertations N. alaguensis & Graminea seem to be mere varieties of P. flexilis.

Very sincerely yours

J. Torrey

P.S. I have written to my Mary in behalf of Dr. W.

per geo. Leigh. Esq. Gale West Street

George Engelmann M.D.
St. Louis
Mo.

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Rec'd April 17
Ans. Aug 24

Princeton, April 6th 1848.

My dear Sir

Your letter of 23rd March reached me yesterday, & must have crossed on the road, mine to you — & yet my last had time enough to reach you before your war mailed.

I wrote this morning to Fremont, urging him to use his influence with his father-in-law to promote Gregg's wishes, & hope they will be granted

Lately I sent the Compositae of Greggs' Collections (received from Short) to De Frey, & he was delighted with them. Of the greater part there were specimens enough for both of us.

Halsted has not yet attended to the Cacti: but I shall request him to do so. I suppose he was deterred by the great difficulty

of drying most of the specs, & they had not thought how desirable they were to be desirable in a living state. He is still in the City of Mexico, & you had better address him a letter yourself. & tell him how to transmit your plants

In the letter which I last wrote to you were some proposals as to the Collecting of the Exploring Expedition

Dr. Gray has not yet published his first vol. of his N. Amer. Gen. of Plants – but he is working hard on the plates of the 2nd Vol. He is to be married next month – but says this event will not retard his botanical studies materially. The lady of his choice is Miss Loring of Boston – the only daughter of an eminent lawyer who is a widower. She is a very amiable & excellent person; just suited to make the Doctor happy. He has lately enlarged his study, & put up additional cases for his herbarium.

Wislizenus' book is not out yet! nor is Emory's Report even in press.

I learn to-day from Prof. Henry – who lately conversed with Col. Benton in Washington, that Mrs. Frémont will not accompany her husband. ~~[illegible]~~.

I am working still on the Californian & Oregon plants of the Exploring Expedn but find not many new ones among the latter

April 8th. Should you write to Halsted, his address is Mina B. H. Surgeon N. York Reg. Volun.

Let me hear from you soon –

Yours cordially

J. Torrey

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Rec.d Sept 21st
Ans Octob 10

Princeton, Sept.r 6th 1848.

My dear Sir -

Your letter of the 26th ult. was received last evening, & like all your communications, afforded me great pleasure. I begin to answer it at once; although I may not dispatch what I now write, until another week has passed.

I am glad that you have the seeds of Greggia, - I hope you will succeed in getting flourishing plants from them. I have no doubt it is the Cowania purpurea of Zuccarini, Pl. nov. v. min. Cog. fasc. quintus. - He has a detailed description, with an excellent figure - Of the latter I send a rough tracing of a portion. The unexpanded flower seems to be imbricated - but the text says "valvate". You will see that the carpels are represented with long filaments "ovl".

The sketch of Forquieria in app. to Emory, was nearly copied from a drawing brought home by the Col. The panicle was represented as terminal. I am not at all pleased with the figures of my bot. appendix. Such things should always be done by botanists: or by artists who are trained to the business. Some of my specimens ~~have no~~ of Larrea have most of the flowers terminal as this was particularly the case with the one from which the drawing was made.

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You are right about the ~~Fremontii~~ Geranium Fremontii - I wrote that note for Wislizenus from memory & supposed that I had given a short description of the plant. It was figured & engraved to publish ~~with the~~ - the plan was altered - & I kept back this plate & others for a fresh report of Fremont. Your name will be adopted.

I like your views of Pines, & also your proposal to write a (joint?) article on the western pines. Perhaps I will send you all my materials - including those of the exploring expedn. so that you will then be able to compare them. Gray will doubtless add all his. If you will make drawings of about a dozen of the new ones (there will probably be more than that number) we can publish the article in the volume on Oregon & California plants which I am preparing. If you finish the drawings in good style, they will be engraved - & you will be paid for them. The extra California species may be described in addn.

I don't know how I came to call the "Amargoso" of Gregg a Zygophyll. plant - for it has few characters of that order - but are you not almost half as far astray in referring it to Sapotaceae? I gave it only a hasty examination & see not my error. What is Gregg's "shrub - ft. high. Dry valley near San Lorenzo - May 11/47 (4-)"?

Col. Emory gave me some examples of Cacti collected on his journey, but they are without flowers. I will send them to you for examination as in some cases they may be more interesting than his drawings, &

I will add to them some other specimens from my letter. You will oblige me by giving names to any set of Greggs' Cactaceae. Dr. Halstead brought but a single one in from Mexico!. There are some ~~few~~ of Fremont's, which you shall see. You will have an opportunity of correcting your description of Emory's Cact. on the 2nd ed.n of his Report with out being very done.

The Col. is trying to get appointed to late chief of the surveying party for settling the boundary line between our possessions & those of Mexico. If he succeeds — of the nomination of his officers is given to him, he will choose Halstead as surgeon! & then in that case a chance for me, who can collect & observe) in the field.

I have been making a new study of Batis, & have prepared a paper (with minute dissections by Prof.) for the Trans. of the Amer. Acad. It is strange that so common a plant (now found in S. Florida & Key west, as well as in most of W. I. Islands) should remain 150 without being understood. Lindley, in Lond. Jour. bot. Vol. 4. (in obs. on Sarcobatus) gives a pretty correct account of the flowers — of a happy conjecture as to the affinities of the plant. He made some mistakes, of course, too, as the petals of the male flowers. The fruit he knew not — of until now. The seeds have ~~been~~ never been described. Batis will come next to Empetraceae — of which it may be regarded as an aspect. Dr. Gray has committed a strange error (Bot. North. States) in stating that Empetrum has "suspended seeds, with the radicle pointing upwards". They are as in Corema, — of indeed all other Empetraceae.

Sept. 9th. On looking over Greggs' plants again, I find the Amaranthus, labelled "Flower yellow, West of Cerralbo, May 29/47 (— —)" You must have noticed it, but never (as surely I did not) suspected it could be a Nyctaginea plant.

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GRAY PAPERS

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It ought to be described anew & figured. Some of my specimens have the fruit.

I have been laying out Fremont's prices for you. If that add to them the species of the Exploring Expedn. Perhaps it would be well to send you the whole of the Conferva. If you think so let me know & they shall all be put in one box forwarded at once. Do you expect any thing sent to you from New York this autumn? It would save expense & trouble if the whole could be put in one box.

Fremont has left Washington for California. I believe you will see him in St. Louis. He expects to cross the mountains in the winter. I fear a rough journey. Of course he will do all he can for Botany - but the season will be unfavorable.

I am yours cordially

Asa Gray

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Rec'd Dec 5th
Ans Dec 7th

New York. Nov. 12th 1848.

My dear Sir

A few minutes ago, our mutual friend Dr. Halsted called on me to day that he should embark in the morning for Jefferson Barracks - I offered to take charge of any thing for you. This is very short notice - but I happened to have for you a small parcel of Hooker's Journal of Botany - just received from Sir William. Perhaps I may be able to get ready something else.

When I had written thus far I found that I had brought to the College from Princeton, a loose parcel for you, containing some of Fremont's 3d Expdn. plants, & some odds & ends. I have hastily thrown them all together & hope some of them will be acceptable

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Of Fremont's plants I had no time to make out a list of the numbers. Please let me have them, together with any remarks you may be prepared to make about any of the plants

I am just now pretty busy with my Chemical Lectures in the Medical College - but shall soon be able to devote considerable time to Botany. Soon I hope to write more at length. of the

answer your last letter -

Believe me Cordially Yours.

F Engelmann -

A Gray -

Missouri Botanical Garden
George Engelmann Papers

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Rec'd Sept 12
Ans April 18

Princeton, N.J.

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Rec'd Cambridge Sept 12th
Ans " Octob 10

New York. Sept. 10th 1856.

My dear Dr. Engelmann.

I suppose that long ago you struck me from your list of correspondents - but, I trust, not from your list of friends. My former intercourse with you had always been very pleasant & profitable to me. but I became negligent - & allowed so many months, & even years to pass without writing to you, that I was at last ashamed to write at all! Still - every day have I thought of you - & wished that you were at hand that I might consult you about some plant or another. belonging to

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your favorite orders. For months I have had ready to send you a large parcel of N. Am. Euphorbiaceæ - intending to attempt a renewal of our correspondence - but have delayed in order to make further additions to the collection. Hoping you would visit this city immediately after Albany meeting I got ready to receive you - anticipating a good time over one of my own pet tribes. After Dr. Gray informed me that you would go direct to Cambridge, I concluded to send you, for examination, my whole stock of N. Amer. Euphorbiaceæ. You will find the materials very rich, though embracing not many novelties. Pray give them a thorough overhauling, & let me have your notes - or even (if you are willing) a full article, on all that belongs to the Mex. Boundary Survey. Name & describe freely all that you like. You will see a remarkable Euphorb. plant from the Canadian River, in which the seeds are <u>ascending</u>. I regret to say that the only male flowers of my sketches of them have been mislaid. I have looked for them in vain. You may, however, have received the plant yourself, from some of your friends & correspondents.

In the trunk sent this day to Cambridge, you will find all my N. Am. Asclepiadaceæ except the genus Asclepias - which will be sent shortly. As you have made

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these plants an especial study
I have done but little with them -
hoping you would elaborate the
whole.

Now my good friend, pray meet
me in the spirit of forgiveness -
Let us renew our correspondence
& keep it up more lively than
ever. I must, also, have a visit
from you before you embark, as I
have much to say & show to you

Ever most cordially yours,

Sincerely

Dr. Geo Engelmann

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Rec'd Kew, Aug. 12
(?) — (Aug. 25

New York. July 30th 1857.

My dear Doctor Engelmann.

Your kind & acceptable letter of the 9th inst. was sent to me by Dr. Gray, & was received yesterday. Very often do I think of you & yours, although I am a miserable correspondent. Once I wrote you a letter which I fully purposed to enclose in one of Dr Grays - but it got mislaid, & when found it was so stale that I thought you would not thank me for it - Still I have a great mind to send it! Dr Gray always keeps me informed of your movements & sent me your letter to read. I see that you have not been idle. How I would like to have worked side by side with you, on some difficult order or tribe of N. American plants! Those drawings of Cactaceae for Whipple's Report were all engraved by Prestele except two that were done by Fredrick

the young German who works for Ackermann) I think they will please you though they cannot be expected to equal those done on steel. As to the letter press of those Cactaceae I have never seen it - nor do I know, indeed, whether is any letter press for those plates! I have written to Bigelow & to Washington, enquiring about it but can get no satisfaction. Certain it is that I have seen no proof sheets. Neither can I learn that the introductory article on Bot. Geography & another on the more important forest trees by Bigelow, has been printed!

I understand, from Mr Schott, that the engravers at Georgetown are working on your Cactaceae - but I know not how many of the plates are done. If the letter press of Whipples (Bigelows) Cactaceae has not yet been struck off, do you wish any extra copies? Will you have some copies of the plates? Ackermann has printed 23,300 copies of all the Botany - all of them by hand - My own extras are taken directly from the stones. I have 150 sets of Whipples & the same number of the letter press. I can supply you with some.

Poppig & Beckwith's Bot. by Gray & myself (small reports - 10 plates each) are contained in a volume just published. I have extra copies. Gray has distributed his share - but I can let you have some.

Of Whipples Bot. there are about 120 pages of letter press & 25 plates.

Poor Durand & Kellogg have made a bad business of their Report. It is very defective & what appeared in the

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Dear Asa. Philad. — but there are to be 16 or 18 plates from very objectionable drawings by Delpard & some execrable ones by Schott. They are now in the engravers hands. I cut out (with permission of Durand) many of the details (as they were miserably done) & omitted some of the plates. There now remain — one for Williams's Survey (10 plates) — one for Parker (9 plants collected by Antwell) (10 plates) — one for Stevens by Dr. Gray small — 5 plates. — One by Newberry —

The Mex. Bound. Rept. will be the largest of all. As soon as the plates are more advanced we shall begin to print. Gray does the Compos. & Scrophul. I look to you for Cucurbitaceæ — & I have yet a number of Euphorbiæ. What can have become of the plate done by Mdlle. Taillant? The drawings & proofs came but no copper. — Decaisne does not answer one half my letters — but I shall write to him again by the next steamer. I have filled my sheet & have not told you

the last of which I would to God I could do well as he is fine. I see he is very fine — which is very often. I see

Rec'd St Louis Aug 31st 1858.
Ans Oct 23

New York. August 26th
1858.

My dear Doctor –

Last evening I was truly glad to find your parcel in my study. It had, in some way unexplained, got covered up in a corner where I supposed I had ~~had~~ looked for it a dozen times. It is just as you left it – sealed up & endorsed by me – & I know not what it contains – except that I feel pretty sure there Cactaceae are in it. I would send it at once to St. Louis were I not desirous of ascertaining whether you do not wish me to send anything with it. It will be a good opportunity for transmitting any particular

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plants that you may wish to examine

I hope that you & Mrs. Engelmann with my young friend George, have arrived safely in St. Louis & that you have found all your friends in good health.

The package of Mss. of Euphorbias arrived safely - You seem to have had no little trouble with it, I hope you will be satisfied with it when printed. I shall request the Supt. of Pub. Printing to send you the proofs.

I had a good time with Gray & remained with him until Friday morning - when I accompanied Mrs. Gray to Hartford. I hope to see both of them at home next week. How I wish it were in my power to spend two or three months with Gray. It is a great satisfaction to work in company - especially with one so acute, & with so good a library. We settled quite a number of difficult matters, that neither of us had been satisfied with before.

You must have your hands full after having been absent so long. & I will not extend my letter. After you get settled I will write again, & hope, in future, to be a more prompt correspondent - than I used to be.

With my kindest regards to Mrs. Engelmann, & George, I remain, as ever, faithfully yours

Asa Gray

Geo. Engelmann. M.D.

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Acc. Oct 23d
Ans Saturday

New York. Oct. 19th 1858

My dear Doctor.

I know how you must have been overwhelmed with business on returning to St. Louis - I do not wonder at your not replying to my letter. Indeed I am not sure ~~that~~ it ever reached you. So I will say that the missing parcel turned up. I was just in the condition in which it was sealed up when you sailed for Europe. It has not been opened since. It must have been put where I found it (on a shelf where I never put such things) when my servant cleaned the study in my absence. I asked whether it should be sent to you by express - but as yet I do not hear of your return. Perhaps

it is not of sufficient value to be sent alone — if you will wait till I have something more to be sent with it.

Well — the printing of the Mex. B. Botany has actually commenced at last! I ordered only 100 extra copies, as the number of plates is so large I can afford no more. You can have a few of them if you wish.

I had quite a dispute with the Printer & Gen. Bowman about the permission to make corrections & alterations. At first they insisted on making the letter-press strictly conform to the copy in all respects — but I told them I was not allowed to correct blunders & would stop at once & take no further part in the matter. They agreed that corrections & alterations might be made — but not material changes — such as introducing new paragraphs &c — Then, too they altered my MS. so as to print proper specific names with a small initial letter — & the same way with names derived from persons & countries. This I protested against — notwithstanding the Zoologists are at variance with the botanists in this respect.

I have not yet received the specimens that Newberry was to bring here from his Colorado Expedition. He will, I think, bring all his collection to New York in a few days. I will then be able to inform you what novelties he has found. It is his

intention to prepare his own Report. but he will be glad to receive and pay his friends & offer to let them work up any facts that they desire to take.

Pay of his wife made up in Oct about a month ago. the were most happy to see them. They went to Montreal & saw Gen. Munro the agreeable soldier!

The report was so bulky that the proofs were left out. I was the more willing to omit them, as Mr. Thurber who has spent much time in studying grapes - writes to give a separate account of them. [redacted] not yet [illegible] publish his results.

Yours very cordially
Asa Gray

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Rec'd April 4th

13

New York, March 30th 1859.

Dear Doctor

I hope you received your parcel in good order. If that Pompey was pleased to see his bow once more! You can hardly yet have got your affairs in order. A five-years absence causes great derangement in one's business. It is almost a set-off to the advantages of travel. Before long I hope you will begin to work again at Botany. If the Bot. Garden, when established, would give you a sufficient support, you might turn over your practice to some of the hungry doctors of St. Louis, who would thereby be kept from starving. Then

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you could make Botany your chief occupation. The business of the Garden, would, however, take up much of your time.

That 2nd. vol. of the Mex. Bound. Report is not published yet — but I am told that it is bound — & that the thickness nearly equals the breadth. Major Emory thought there was matter enough for only a moderately thick volume — & the appropriation for binding was made accordingly. Gen. Boorman the Supt. of Printing said he had no money to pay for binding more than one volume, & so the whole was put between two covers. I understand, however, that there are two title pages — & the Botany can then be kept separate from the other matter. Even that is a pretty

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GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

corpulent book. What have you done about extra copies? I ordered 100 copies of letter press — & hope to get 100 set of the plates. Have you ordered your plates of Cactaceae? I should like to get 15 sets of yours. I will furnish you with an equivalent number of mine. I have only 91 plates — you about 80 I believe.

Pray & I have done up Newberry's Colorado Expd. plants. It was a labor of love — as there was no Treasury-paper to be had! Are we not very patriotic — when we can do no better? Have you done Euphorbias?

So you have the female of the old Sesleria dactyloides! Pray let me have a fragment of it. How carefully & anxiously have I searched for this thing

When you can send proofs to Mr. Thurber he will be glad to receive them. These plants are his pets, & I think he will soon understand them well. He corresponds with Col. Mum-ro, an English officer now stationed in Quebec. He was, with his regiment at Montreal, when the Sc. Association met there in 1857, & I had a good time with him over a large bundle of hay. He is a regular fire-eater & fought in the R. Indies as well as in the Crimea. It is given that he should have so strong a love of Botany & once so. That he should be so proficient in the difficult study of Grasses. Gray is coming to make me a visit next week. I shall be to work with him in my 4th story!

My kind remembrances to Mrs Engelmann. & to George.

Yours faithfully
John Torrey

Our botany again is gaining a Fungus figure of Sarkoria Humphr. It is Anthostoma ... Illustrations ... "whose work — Elliptica stuffed ... "whose work — Elliptica stuffed" ... see that it can be so stuff. but as such. Do you find both seeds in the same ...

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Rec'd April 7th
Ans. April 14th

New York, April 1. 1859

Dear Doctor -

I fancying you might publish your article on Buffalo grafs, I write again so soon, to say that there can be no doubt of your plant being the Anthephora (Steudel writes it Antiphora - & so does Munro) axillaris. The other two N. Am. species of Steudel, Munro thinks should be referred to Hilaria. What puzzles me is, to know how you identified the Sesleria dact. with their grafs. Pray inform me.

Have you sent your descriptions of Euphorbiae & Cruciferae to Newberry? He has probably done up the pines, oaks &c himself.

[Pony Oaks: Fran. Jaques Mem. of Reifsen ?]

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On the next page I give you some references to Anthephora from my herbarium.

It becomes a question whether our plant is a congener of the species of the old world — or whether those show any tendency to dimorphism

Yours ever

J. Torrey

Dr Engelmann

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Rec'd April 18th
Ans. Ap 24

15

New York, April 8th 1857

My dear Doctor –

Your of the 5th inst. was received this morning

The Obione is one that I named several years ago – O. Suckleyana – it having been discovered by Dr. Geo. Suckley on Stevens' Expedn. It is figured (by Prague) will be published in Dr. Gray's Bot. Report, to accompany Stevens' Rep. of the Expedn.

You will see in the Bot. of Wupfler's Exped. that I confirm Fenzl's remark (in Ledeb. Fl. Ross. 3. p. 777) on the propriety of restoring Chenopodium to Suæda – See also what I say about Chenopodium linearis (which must be Suæda linearis) in Stansbury's Exped. Moquin has done up the pigweeds rather carelessly

– April 12th – I hope this that I might procure for you a specimen of Antiphrum elegans – which I thought was in my herb. – but if there it has got misplaced – for I can not lay my hand on it. Humber has been very sick for two or three weeks – but at last he looked for the Antiphrum – with no better success than I had.

Unfortunately, too, we have neither Schweinitz Gram. nor P. de Beauv. Agrost. – but I will get what you write from Gray – to whom I will write this day.

Did I not state in my letter to you that Steudel's Anth. axillifl. was from Dr. Lindheimer's Texan Coll.? I meant to do so. (or perhaps in Emory's)

In Sturm's Deutsch, I think it is, I state that Scleria dactyl. does not belong where it has usually been placed – but that it resembles Chondrosium.

I enclose two Euphorbiae (fragments) from the Coll. of the U.S. Expl. Exped. – collected in California. As you have the exclusive right to name them, I beg you will give me their names.

Gray spent five days with me – from Thursday to Monday last – & we had a good time in the study. He brought on Mrs. G. who is poorly. She will remain with us a few weeks – & is already improving in health – See a memo. from the Doctor on the next page –

Yours ever
Asa Gray

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Recd April 24
Ans Ap 24

New York April 21. 1859

My dear Doctor –

Your letter of the 14th was recd. in good time. Not having any specimen of Nuttallia elegans – nor the works in which it is figured – I sent to Prof. G. to have now his Beano. Agrost. from which I have copied what you wished. It is plainly a Panicoid grass & allied to Cenchrus – altogether different from Setaria dactyloides – which I long ago said was much like Chondrosum – & now I see the resemblance more plainly. In several of my Bot. Reports, notes have been made about the plant. It must I suppose, go into a separate genus – Perhaps there are several genera in the same case – i.e. with dimorphous inflorescence. Nuttall in Pl. Asiatic. – Amer. Phil. Trans.) notices – if I remember correctly – two such genera – I will make a special look for any that

may be in my herbarium — I would do so immediately were I at home. This is written in the Post Office, & I am going out of town this afternoon — to be absent a day or two. On my return I will look, too, at your Amaranthus. — My notes on Echinospermum must be postponed likewise

Did I not mention in a former letter that Fenzl, in Ledeb. Fl. Ross. vol. 3. had shown the impossibility of separating Chenopodium from Suaeda — since vertical & horizontal seeds are found in individuals of both species. I have found both kinds of seeds in flowers that were side by side. Chenopod. Mogquini is then Suaeda Moq.

Torrey

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Rec'd Feb 28

New York. Feby. 24th 1862.

My Dear Doctor —

You will see by the date of the other letter that I did write an answer to your previous epistles — although it was not sent at the time. It was two weeks at least, before I could get an opportunity to select the specimens that you wished — & after that, in re-examining some pines, I began to doubt whether P. flexilis of James might not be something different from what I had supposed it to be. — It can hardly be one of the Strobus group — as they do not have edible seeds. James's book (Long's Exped.) is not just now in my reach — but I think he says, somewhere, that the seeds are winglefs. I hoped it might prove to be P. monticola — if that species is really distinct from P. Strobus, but the seeds don't agree.

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I dont see how you can make out much from the leaves -- but I have put up for you some of them. You probably have my P. monophylla. Newberry must be correct in regarding it as a remarkable state of your P. edulis - but I have given my opinion about it in my other letter

Since I wrote before I have received very few plants - but I have been looking, as time would permit, at former collections - chiefly those of Oregon & California. The latter country will long continue to afford new species. There are many peculiar portions of it that have not yet been well explored. It is a pity we could not work together (I mean you, Gray & myself) - for we could then greatly help each other. You will have to come here - for we can not go to St Louis. How does Mr. Shaw's grand project come on. Has that great lawsuit made him so poor that he can not [illegible] the garden? You are thrashing the rebels so bravely in Missouri, that there will soon be none to whip.

In Kentucky & Tennessee too, & in some of the other States, there is great success to the Union cause, & it is greatly to be hoped that this grand rebellion will soon come to an end. Oh that it could be done without bloodshed - but that seems to be impossible. May a merciful God bring good out of all this suffering & loss.

In your letter of the 5th inst. you say that you have what seems to be Pinus flexilis of James - Pray let me have a cone, & a branch with leaves.

Some years ago I overhauled my Gentians, & then put G. Fremontiana with G. prostrata - but it may be also the same as G. humilis - which can hardly be distinct from G. prost.

Mr. Thurber has spent most of the winter in New York. You know, probably, that he is Prof. of Botany &c. in the State Agricultural College of Michigan (at Lansing) - He has been studying the Grasses of the "far west" - on which he has engaged to write a report.

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His general list of Western Plants, with references to all the scattered works upon them, is pretty well advanced - but they work him so hard at the College, I don't see when he will get time to finish it. I have urged him to close up his ~~[illegible]~~ lectures & come back to New York, where he could get congenial employment & have time to write on Botany.

I wish you would make Dr. Gray & myself a visit. We could have a good time in studying to settle some of our troublesome plants, so as to remove the uncertainty that exists in relation to many of them.

As soon as I can move up to the College it is my intention to distribute all my own duplicates (not very many now.) - & those of the Smithsonian Inst.n now in my hands. Very likely I may be able to supply you with some not in your herbarium.

Excuse haste -

Yours truly

A. Lowry

Dr. Geo. Engelmann.

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Rec'd Oct. 16th
Ans Oct 19/11.

U. S. Assay Office
New York October 9th 1862.

My dear Doctor –

This will be handed to you by my good friend E. N. Kent Esq.r who is the Chief Melter & Refiner of this Office. I has been associated with me from the origin of our establishment – I was previously my pupil in Chemistry. He leaves here for a few weeks to make a visit to the Pike's Peak Gold Region, & will stop a short time at St. Louis. I offered him a letter to you, knowing how kind you will be to him. He will be glad to get your advice as to his journey from the frontier onward – if there be any frontiers this side of the Pacific Ocean. He is worthy of your entire confidence & regard. Please give my respects to Mrs. Engelmann, & also to George – if he has not forgotten me –

Yours ever – Jos Jones

Dr. Geo Engelmann.

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Abies C. 1846 = A. Menziesii
Abies 212 1845 A. nigra? no cones
longifolia = Fendler 833
B. 1846 — Abies Douglasii
266 1845 " "
211 " Abies ?
32 Dec 1845 Abies ?
a 1846 Abies Douglasii ?
202 1845 Abies ?

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Rec'd Nov 15th
Ans Nov 22d

New York, Nov. 10th 1864

My Dear Dr If you were not one of the best tempered men in the world you would long since have struck me off from the list of your friends. There are two reasons (if they ought to be so called) why I have so long delayed writing to you - The first is, that I intended to send you all my N. American specimens of the Pine group (cones & leaves) - with my notes on the same - & I had made considerable progress in this work, when the ~~progress~~ continuance of the war threw so much extra business into my hands that I could do but little except labor on my herbarium. The conditions of my arrangement with Columbia College required that the collection should be in the best working order, & all the specimens glued down. My assistants were so expert that all the leisure that I could spare from

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my public duties, & analyzing ones to support my family, would scarcely enable me to keep up with them. 2. Still, I might have attended to what you chiefly demed of me, were it not from a vicious habit of procrastination that I am so much affected with. Now that I have made my confession & explanation, & thrown myself on your generosity, I hope to do better & to answer all your letters promptly. I have always enjoyed & profited much in my correspondence with you, & hope it will not be again interrupted.

I send you the only cone of Abies Williamsonii in my possession, & hope it will reach you without much damage done to its essential characters. The other conif. I will send in a day or two.

So you are at work on Callitriche! The genus needs overhauling, notwithstanding all that has been done with it. You are acute in detecting characters that have been overlooked by other botanists: & I hope you will clear up the genus. It would seem from your remarks in a letter to Durand, that you have not consulted Nuttall's paper on Arkansas Plants in the Amer. Phil. Transactions. Very soon after the return of N. from Arkansas (about the year 1820) he gave me a set of the plants that he collected in his journey. I sat at the table while he selected the specimens, & wrote the names at his dictation. My 2 specimens of Callitriche are named to correspond with the descriptions in his Memoir (l.c.) I have none marked C. sejuncta. His descriptions at once show the difference between the two species.

I know not whether you have seen specimens of C. marginata described in Whipple's Report. Austin may have taken bits for you from my herbm but there is no harm in sending a little more. Would you like to have all my specimens of Callitriche for examination?

Hoping to write more at large in two or three days, I remain, as ever

Yours very cordially
Asa Gray

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Rec'd Sept 18
Ans — 22

New York, Sept. 11th 1867.

My dear Doctor -

You are a noble man to retain your friendship for me when I have been such a shabby negligent correspondent! I have been so occupied with business, & in merely putting in good working order my herbarium, that I have done scarcely any thing in proper botanical investigation. I had nothing in that line to communicate that was worth writing about. Still I ought to acknowledge the receipt of your letters & of those most excellent papers of yours on Juncei, Rumex &c. - But first about George. I could hardly believe my eyes when I saw him. He is a first rate chap, & I hope he will make a better man than his father! But he will have to work hard if he only makes as good a one.

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When he called at the Army Office the first time I had not yet gone down. (we now live at Columbia College 3½ miles from the Park) — but I had a good talk with him yesterday. He was to spend most of the day in a visit to West Point, & I hope he enjoyed it, as the weather has been charming — & he took a letter from me to Dr. Bartlett. I asked him to take breakfast with me tomorrow, & he promised to try & come — but he may not be quite ready for his voyage. Although we hope to see him. It must have been painful for you & Mrs. Engelmann to part with him — especially as he expects to be absent five years!

Sept. 12. You know that some years ago I gave all my Herbm to Columbia College, & my Botanical Books also

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The College has given me several good sized rooms in which to arrange the Collections, & as I live adjoining there apartments. (in a house provided for me) I have greater conveniences for study than I ever enjoyed before. But, alas, every thing is so dear. (rather money is worth so little) — that I am obliged to do chemical jobs in order to supplement my salary — for that is just what it was when the Assay Office was established. Still I work on the Herbm more or less every day — but chiefly in putting the entire collection in such good order, that it can be consulted with the greatest ease by other botanists. It is now nearly done — so that the additions constantly arriving, can easily be incorporated.

I worked on Dunens to-night, with your admirable Monog. of N. Am. Species. Soon after I received the copy of it that you so kindly sent me, I arranged all my materials in the genus, according to your views. I had all my Juncii packed up ready to send

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you, but never got the hand off.. & now you don't care to be troubled with it.. There are, however, a few doubtful specimens that I must get you to examine.

Your other valuable papers on Pinus, Gentians, &c. have been of great service to me. When shall we have the remainder of your Junci? What will you undertake next?

We had a good meeting of the National Acad. at Hartford & would have been greatly pleased to see you there. I confess, however, that I enjoy more the Bld Amer. Association than the more Aristocratic 50! I took one of my daughters with me to Burlington where we had a very pleasant meeting. Yet we missed some of the old members. Next year the Assocn. will meet at Chicago & you must go there.

Many thanks for your photographs which I wanted for my large album of Scientific men. Please accept my ugly old face in return.

Yours ever
John Torrey

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Rec'd Oct 15th
Ans. Same Day

Penn Yan, Oct. 11th 1867.

My dear Doctor — Your friendly letter of Sept. 22nd was duly received.

I have studied Lemnaceæ some, but have not been able to satisfy myself as to some of my specimens, that are without flowers or fruit. Austin has not done them up well in Gray's last ed. of the Manual. He is a pretty good observer, considering the little training he has had.

As to Wolffia, I have none of it in my herbm except some from Riddell, collected near New Orleans. I send you a portion of that. It is mixed with what may be Lemna minor.

That L. perpusilla, described in the Flora of New York State, seems to hold its character very constant. Have you any from that locality?

Is it not strange that L. (Spirodela) polyrhiza is said to have not been found in blossom "here"? I suppose that by "here", he means the region embraced in the Manual — or perhaps

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North America - Yet I have specimens in fl. & fruit, sent to me by Dr. Gray at least three years ago. - Collected by a Mrs. Brown, in Brattleboro' Vermont! I think the Doctor told me that his specimen had been mislaid a lot. My analysis of the fruit & fruiting agreed exactly with the excellent figures of Richard in Guillemin's Arch.

I send you a small portion of what I have left, of a Lemna, a allied genus, found by the late Dr. M. B. Halsted at Panama. I have mislaid my sketches. I think you will find some of the fertile flowers. - but I found also what I took for separate male flowers

Pray send me a copy of the 2nd part of Juncus as soon as published. I have a great mind to pack up & send you a good portion of all my specimens, except those about which there can be no doubt. It will be a great satisfaction to have them named by the author of the monograph himself.

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You had (as I think was stated in my last letter to you) ~~[illegible]~~ a good meeting of the Nat. Acad. at Hartford. There was no action taken on your resignation - at least, I heard of none. Indeed I was not sure that you had resigned - but some one informed me that you had intended to do so.

I hope we may be spared to see you & Mrs. Engelmann next spring, when you come here to embark for Europe. Arrange your business so that you can spend at least three or four days in New York.

A letter rec'd yesterday from Dr Gray gives me the sad news that his excellent father-in-law - Mr. Loring, had just died. This will cause Mrs. Gray much sorrow. The Doctor, too, was strongly attached to him.

Yours ever.
John Torrey

over

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P.S. My notes on the Panama Lemna are as follows. (The plant was examined ten years ago.)

"Flowers diœcious? They appear to be unisexual, in different fronds of the same cluster.

"Differs from Lemna in the male flowers, which seem to be 2-8-together, & consist of sessile anthers seated in the fundus of a chink of the frond. There may be pairs of anther cells, & the stamens only half as many as there are globules, but they are apparently quite distinct, & break away spontaneously when mature. They dehisce by a horizontal fissure into two valves, & discharge a great number of minute rough granules."

I made a mistake inside. This plant was found by Dr J. LeConte - not by Dr. Halsted.

I see that Dr. Buchanan, in Bot. Zeitung. Nos. 25 & 27 for 1867, has supplemented your observations on the genus Juncus, by giving the markings &c. of the seeds of European species - as well as those of Luzula.

Rec'd Aug 15
Ans. " 22

Columbia College Herbarium
Augt. 10th 1870.

My dear Dr. Engelmann. Last night my friend Mr. Wm. H. Leggett brought me specimens of Lemna (Spirodela) polyrrhiza? in flower & fruit - supposing himself to be the first person who had collected it in flower in U. States. He informed me that he had sent you some of the plant in a letter. I told him that I possessed specimens in both states collected by Mrs. Brown, of Brattleborough, Vermont. They were sent to me six or seven years ago by Dr. Gray - but seems to have entirely forgotten the circumstance. for he says ~~that~~ (in Manual) that the plant has not been seen in flower in this country. Austin, who worked up the Lemnaceae for Gray' last ed. says nothing about the flowering of this plant in the U.S. - yet he overhauled & made notes on the Lemnae of my Herb. - in which, the Vermont plant conspicuously ticketed, is on the

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same sheet with other specimens of L. polyrrhiza.

I have spent nearly all this last evening (thermometer 89°) in examining Mr. Leggett's specimens, & have some doubts as to its identity with the true L. polyrrhiza. The only fruit that I examined was one-seeded — but I dissected three flowering fronds & found the ovary uniovulate in all of them. I have from you a plant "Lemna unbonata, A. Braun in litt. St. Louis, May 1845." There are no flowers or fruit on the specimens. Can it be the same plant as Leggett's? Unfortunately I have not access to Steelmaier's monog. just now. In your letter of Oct. 18, 1867 you allude to something that I wrote to you about flowers & Lemna polyrrhiza — was it not in substance what I have written above? Gray thinks I am mistaken in my belief that he sent me specimens from Mrs. Brown. I made some memoranda, & dissections when the plant was yet alive — but they are mislaid. Does Hegelmaier say that the ovules & seeds are ever solitary?

What success have you in examining the N. Am. sp. of Yucca. It is surprising how poorly off our herbaria in complete specimens of even the more common forms. You are probably aware that Oliver, of Kew is engaged in writing on the genus in Gardeners Chronicle. I have seen two numbers of his memoir. It is rather popular that scientific

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The species in the books might, perhaps, be reduced one half. They make thorough work in expunging nominal species.

I wrote on my College Dea- I was sorry, when I opened my paper drawer - that there was nothing to write on. But such pieces as this.

What awful work is going on in Europe. But it seems to be unavoidable. Nearly all true Americans sympathize wholly with Prussia. The miserable despot of the French seems to be a doomed man. My kindest regards to Madam.

Yours ever Asa Gray

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This unfinished letter got smothered & was lost sight of until it was brought to light in making a clear-up last evg.

Recd Jan 9th

New York, August 12th 1891

My dear Dr. Engelmann.

I promised, in my last letter to you that I would write again very soon - & chiefly on Botanical subject. Sorry I am that I could not return a more favorable answer to the questions that you asked me on behalf of your brother. If I were not so old, I would try & get a place in some college, where I could have leisure to pursue science exclusively. In most Colleges (for example in Columbia C.) there are not more than 7 months of actual teaching. There are three months or nearly a half in a continuous vacation, besides two weeks about the holidays - examinations, reviews &c.

So you are still looking at Yuccas - & it seems that after all your labors there are several - not all rare - species not thoroughly known! I am glad to learn that the characters of Y. Whipplei are settled

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& I hope soon to read what you have said about its flower. Watson's book must be ready for publication very soon - for the printing was nearly done six weeks ago.

I hope that his Report does not contain your description of Hesperaloë: for Dr. Gray described it in his "Contributions" June 11th 1869, under the name ~~[illegible]~~ Aloe yuccaefolia - but I suppose that you could not have overlooked Gray's work - & he probably wrote to you on the subject when he learned that you were studying the Yuccas. It seems that he has had the plant under cultivation at Cambridge

Baker has helped you very little in what he has done with the cultivated Yuccas -

Did I send you some spikelets of a Dimerous Juncus from the Henry's Fork of Green River? (Collected by Hayden in Oct. 1870) Prof. Porter sent me a specimen of it. It is quite different from the one noticed in your monog. but I don't feel certain to what species it should be referred. The inflorescence is a long loose panicle, & the ~~[illegible]~~ capitula are solitary on elongated filiform peduncles. There are but two stamens, wh. appear to be destitute of pollen. The contents of the grains seem to have been converted wholly into extremely minute grains, wh. are probably the spores of a fungus - leaving a membranaceous utricle - which, I think, is split open on one side. I send you some ~~[illegible]~~ capitula. How much they resemble a grass!

Over

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Jany. 6th 1872

It is a little after date – but I do most cordially reciprocate the kind wishes of yourself & good wife – May all my dear Engelmann friends enjoy many happy New Years in the present life, & have the precious hope of unending years in the better world beyond.

Many thanks for those choice Lemnaceae – which, you know, are pets of mine. I must try to get a copy of Hegelmaier's Monog – which, as yet I only know from a borrowed one. Is there anything ~~that He~~ would like, & such as I could send ~~the~~ author? Of course he has other favorites besides the Duckweeds I have left; some of Mexican Bound. Plants, which he might like

Gray has probably sent you a copy of his article on Parry & Watts, from the American Naturalist. If Mr. W. has not a very thick skin, or has not (as it almost seems he has) a contempt for all high science he must feel ashamed of the exposure made by Gray. Schott has written to me again for a testimonial. & I am sorry that I can not send him one – He is qualified sufficiently for the place – but I can take no part in patching up Watts' bad work.

Give my very kind regards to Mrs. Engelmann & to George. Yours cordially John Torrey

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Rec'd April 26th

Smithsonian Institution -
Washington, April 16th 1870

Dear Dr. Engelmann -

Here I am in the midst of friends, scientific & others - enjoying myself greatly - The Academy has just closed its spring session - which has lasted since the 11th inst. Many good papers have been read - & we should have been glad indeed to have had you with us - The number of members is to be increased, & the "Iron-clad oath" is to be dispensed with. The peripatetic character of the Academy will probably be changed, & all the future meetings held in Washington: After all I fear as to the future of the Academy & I would despair were it not for the legacy of Prof. Bache, late Supt. of the Coast Survey. He assigned to the Academy, after the death of his wife, all his property. She died last January. The sum at present available is 42,000, & there may be about

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$10,000 more often a time. The whole sum will enable the Academy to publish their proceedings, & to promote special investigations. So much for the Academy –

I have, of course, been much at the Agricultural Department, & been daily with Dr. Parry. I am glad that you are in correspondence with him. He read to me a letter that he received from you to-day. I am also pleased that you have taken up the Yuccas. Is it not strange that we know so little of even the species that have for many years been recorded natives of our Southern States? Elliott seems to have been imperfectly acquainted with them. When I described the species collected by the botanists of the Boundary Survey, & Whipple's Expedn. there were not sufficient materials for the determination of all of them. We now have more. Palmer has helped us out of some doubt – & you have got some materials to help you from Dr Parry & others. I propose, when I go back to New York, to send you all my stock of Yucca specimens, that you may give them another examination with the additional light since thrown on this little known genus.

What a pity that Palmer lost (almost certainly) the most valuable part of the botanical collections that he made last year! They probably went down to the sea bottom in the ill-fated steamer recently lost on the Pacific Coast. The Doctor is endeavoring to go out again, & to collect again in the more interesting places that he visited in 1869 –

New York – April 20 – I had some other things to write about – of which I could not be certain until I returned home, & could get at my plants. – We have had Darlingtonia in flower! By the kindness of Wells, Fargo, I got a box of the plants from a locality in Nevada Co. California, & a specimen given to Prof. Thurber

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has produced a well developed flower. Sprague's figure, in Smith. Contrib. is so exact that I find little to add from the fresh plant! We may now hope to have the thing in our gardens.

Let me know whether I can send you any pines from my stock. What do you think of Partlitori's doings in the Podromus? Gray has been doing up the Eriogoneae very nicely. I have just received from him rough proofs of his paper.

When I send on my Yucca's (sometime this week) I will have some questions to ask you about several of them. Since my return from Washington, business has accumulated so much that, until tomorrow, I can do but little in Botany. My kind regards to your good wife

Yours very cordially
J. Torrey

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Rec'd Nov 14th
Ans Dec 3

2

New York, Nov. 9th 1871

My dear Doctor Engelmann.

You will praise me, this time, for answering, immediately your letter of the 6th inst. – received only this afternoon. I had already received the little Arceuthobium. It was brought to our Botanical Club last Tuesday Evening – I looked in vain for male flowers – & am glad that they have been found. Our Misletoes need another overhauling. Our materials for several of the species are still imperfect. Have you ever examined the male flowers of Phoradendron Californicum? See what I say about them in Bot. of Whipple's Exped. I was mistaken in stating that you ~~made~~ described the author of Phoradendron as opening only by pores transverse slits. I rather think that my Ph. pauciflorum in Bot. Whipple is Viscum Bolleanum of Seemann Bot. Herald. I forgot, above, to say, that in specimens of Arceuthob. from Pima Co. I noticed that several of the stems were branched – but none more than 3-flowered.

In Sta Barbara Co. Calif. I saw large bunches of a Misletoe on Cottonwood – but could not get at them to obtain specimens.

You have doubtless heard of the decapitation of Parry by the new Commissioner of Agriculture Mr. Watts. It seems to have been done by a conspiracy of Mr. Watts' clerk & one of the gardeners, who made false representations to the Commissioner: it was a shameful & tyrannical act, & has excited great indignation among our men of

science - for no charge was made against Dr. Parry, & he was dismissed peremptorily, without permission even to remonstrate! Prof. Henry has undertaken to disabuse Mr. Watts - & to let him know that the naturalists of agricultural ~~throughout the~~ country will resent such an affront to a man of science. It he reinstates the Doctor very well - but if he does not he will probably, from all I hear, be attacked on all sides. The large herbarium of the Department was turned over from the Smithsonian - chiefly, as I think, from representations that I made to Prof. Henry - I worked hard for a number of years, & without remuneration, to get this collection together - & Dr Parry, at the request of Prof. Henry & myself, was appointed Botanist to take charge of it. The herbarium is only on deposit & can be returned to the Smithsonian by a demand from the Professor. We shall know, in two or three days, what is to be done.

Have you received a full copy of Mr. Watson's Botany of King's Exped.? I have only had a small part of it sent to me - but Mr. W. when he passed through New York a few weeks ago said that the whole volume would soon be sent to me - & that the entire edition was in the binder's hands.

You know that Mr. W. has been engaged by a number of botanists to compile a complete index to all the authors who have described or noticed plants indigenous to the region ~~lying~~ west of the Mississippi. He promised to commence that work immediately after distributing the King's exped. specimens. - We all greatly need such an Index.

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Gray has doubtless told you about his hard work on his new Green-house at Cambridge. I hope to make him a visit shortly. I have just received from him a letter, inclosing a long one that was sent to him by Meisner, giving an account of his large Herb^m which he offers for sale – It contains some 40,000 species & were his – As it is his chief property, & his age is now about 71 years, he wishes to secure a ~~fair~~ fair price for it that he may leave something for his children. It must be a valuable collection & I fear that he will hardly find a purchaser in this country. The price is $5,000

I have a copy of Hegelmaier's article on Spirodela. How much he has made of that rarely-flowering Duckweed! & how he has elaborated the whole order of Lemnaceae in his monograph!

Thanks for the printed leaf from Watson's Book on Yucca & Agave. So you have made a genus of my doubtful Yucca pauciflora, & have tripped up our friend Dr. Gray. My Agave Lecheguilla is A. heteracantha Zucc.!

Where do you intend to publish your article on Yucca? I suppose you will return my specimens of the plant when you have done with them. Let me know when you wish any other plants from Herb. Torr. All my herbarium now belongs to Columbia College – & I am now only its custodian; but I feel authorized to loan specimens to working botanists. Suppose you send a note on the little Arceuthobium for the Bulletin of our Botanical Club! We meet on the last Tuesday evg. of every month; at the Botanical Rooms of Columbia College.

With my kind regards to Mrs. Engelmann, I remain, as ever

Cordially yours, John Torrey

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Rec'd May 7th 1892
Ans. ordered, & Oct 18

New York, April 27th 1892

My dear Dr. Engelmann

Your last letter to me was dated March 25 - & before I was able to make a suitable reply to your questions & ~~inqu~~ observations. I made a trip of about 5 weeks to Florida! The month of March has always been a trying time to me - (indeed I greatly dislike all cold weather) - and my daughter urged me to spend the early spring in the South. It required no prolonged urging for me to comply with their wishes - as I had never visited Florida, & was desirous of seeing its vegetation. I was greatly pleased with the country - (not that it would be a desirable residence) - for the climate was delicious - & the botanizing, even early in March, was as much advanced as it is here in the middle of May, or early in June. I did not expect to collect many plant - for I was already pretty

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well acquainted with the Flora of the State — but I gathered a few specimens of nearly fifty species — mostly as Keepsakes of my Trip.

Before I left New York for the South, I had my Curator, Mr. Le Roy, copy from Dr. Arnott's original memoir on Torreya, the remarks that I made on the singular canals that I noticed in the seed of T. taxifolia: and I enclose the same. — I write at the Assay Office. I can not refer to the plate of the nut of Taxus nucifera in Richard's Conifeae — but I will examine it when I go to the College today.

As to Chapman, I don't know where he is. I inquired for him when I was in Florida — but without success. Afterwards I was told that he had gone away permanently. I was somewhere in Massachusetts. A letter from Gray received this morning, in answer to mine, inquiring as to Chapman's whereabouts, gave me no satisfaction. Dr. C. has not replied to one of several letters addressed to him by Dr. G. — for the last two years. He passed through Boston without stopping — & no one seems to know where he has gone.

May 4th. I have kept this letter unfinished in order to look for a notice of the seeds of Coniferae that I happened to glance at when I was looking over some recent works of Botany — or some journal — but without making a note of the same. So I will not delay sending what I have written — & I may yet find what I was looking for. It seems to me that it ~~[illegible]~~ shed some light on the curious canals in the shell of Torreya taxifolia.

I did not intend that Dr. Parry should suppose that I had undertaken the revision of our Loranthaceae — but only that I was reexamining some of the species of Phoradendron. In one of your papers you stated that the anther-cells opened transversely & longitudinally. Do you not consider the mode of dehiscence as of almost generic importance?

Mr. J. J. Crooke (a most liberal, & intelligent manufacturer, & an amateur cultivator of several

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branches of science) has purchased Meissners Herbarium for Columbia College. The price was $5,000.

You may know that Dr. Parry intends botanizing on the R Mts. of Colorado again this season. Dr. & Mrs. Gray, on their return from California next August, purpose joining Dr. P. & going with him to the summit of Grays Peak! How I should like to be with them! But I am getting too old to undertake long & wearisome journeys.

Yours cordially

John Torrey

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Recd Jan 13
Ans — 25

New York, Jan 10th 1872

My dear Dr Engelmann -

I forgot to enclose in my last letter to you, a seed of Fouquieria splendens. Here is one. The fleshy covering is dried up. If you have the work in which is contained Arnott's original description of this plant, you will see what I have said about two canals in the testa of the seed. I have not yet ascertained what they mean. You will find them in both species. Tell me what you think of what they correspond to other seeds.

Do you mean to give Schott a testimonial to accompany his application for the vacant place in the Agricult. Dept.? I have resolved myself to have nothing to do with the Dept. while Mr Walker is Commissioner. Poor Schott is suffering as we fully in that employment.

Yours truly
J. Torrey.

Dr Engelmann.

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GARDEN
PAPERS

Rec'd Sept 20 72

American House,

The Largest and Finest Hotel in Colorado.

J. U. MARLOW
Proprietor.

Denver, Sept. 17 1872

Dear Dr. Engelman

Quite unexpectedly I have been able to make a second visit to California. After the postponed meeting of the Amer. Assoc. at San Francisco proved a failure I thought that I could never see the Pacific Coast again — but I received a commission to attend to some business at the San Fr. Mint, of their gave me "mileage" for the journey there & back. So with some cash that I had been saving, I have been taking my visit, in company with my daughter "Maggie". We have been much of California — of course people have turned up every where

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Dr. Gray had been there before me, but he was greatly hurried & saw little –

We came to Denver three days ago & are just starting for the Colorado Springs: on Thursday next we shall attempt the ascent of Gray's Peak & the following Monday shall for home, intending to stop a day at St. Louis – where we hope to see you & your

The cracks would be like us to be also –

Yours ever

Asa Gray

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Pleasantville Place
6th March
1873.

Rec. March 11
Ans. —

Dr. Engelmann

Dear Sir

I believe one
of your letters
addressed to
M. Torrey,
Esq.

Mr. Engelmann, &
Frances to kind Mrs
Engelmann, &
remain, dear Sir,
Yours sincerely
Sarah L. Torrey

Father will be glad to get news of yr work from time to time. Be good enough to present my affectionate remembrances to kind Mrs Engelmann, & believe me

dear Sir, yr obliged & sincerely
Sarah L. Torrey

P.S. Father writes me letters are
but few & long intervals
elapse between them, & he
remains very feeble & unfit for any work. It
is very long since I
heard from you.

received. Your son has probably told you of Father's illness at the time of his visit. The disease (pleurisy) was conquered within ten days; but his strength does not come back, as he & we hoped it. wd.

He keeps his bed most of the time now — only sitting up for an hour or two each day.

On looking over his unanswered letters today, I was sorry to find one from you, in wh was an inquiry that you may have needed a reply to. I therefore now send the address of the therein mentioned

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

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MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

Botanical lady.

Miss M. C. Reynolds.
Care Rev. Chas. O. Reynolds.
St. Augustine.
Florida

Father sends cordial
remembrances to you
& Mrs Engelmann, &
to your son. He is trying
to get at his Botany again,
but still has great patience,
& is very biddable & good.

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